

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Re-examination and favorable reconsideration in light of the above amendments and the following comments are respectfully requested.

Claims 14 - 34 are pending in the application. All claims are subject to an election/restriction requirement.

By the present amendment, claims 14 - 16 and 18 - 21 have been amended; and claims 26, 27, and 29 - 34 have been cancelled without prejudice.

In the office action mailed October 11, 2006, the Examiner required applicants to elect from the following groups of species:

A: claims 14, 18, and 23 - 25 - a lid assembly;

B: claims 15, 19, 20, 26 - 28 - a lid assembly to include an actuator;

C: claims 16, 17, 21, and 22 - a lid assembly to include at least one articulated arm articulated on the lid about a first axis which is spaced apart from the front axis;

D: claims 29 and 32 drawn to a convertible vehicle;

E: claims 30, 33 and 34 drawn to a convertible vehicle to include an actuator; and

F: claim 31 direct to a convertible vehicle to include at least one articulated arm articulated on the lid about a first axis which is spaced apart from the front axis.

Applicants hereby elect the species A. Claims 14 - 25 and 28 are all generic and readable on the elected species, as the election is understood by Applicants, since the Examiner has not identified the different species in terms of different Figures set out in the specification.

An early action on the merits is solicited.

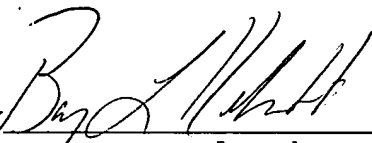
Should the Examiner believe an additional amendment is needed to place the case in condition for allowance, he is

invited to contact Applicants' attorney at the telephone number listed below.

A one-month extension of time request and a check in the amount of \$120.00 to cover the extension of time fee are enclosed herewith. Should the Director determine that an additional fee is required, he is hereby authorized to charge said fee to Deposit Account No. 02-0184.

Respectfully submitted,

Gerard Queveau et al.

By 
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Date: December 11, 2006

I, Karen M. Gill, hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313" on December 11, 2006.

